



March 7, 2014

**Letter – Expression of Interest  
VIA ECFS**

Chairman Thomas Wheeler  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel  
Commissioner Ajit Pai  
Commissioner Michael O’Rielly  
Jonathan Chambers  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW 20024  
Washington, DC

**Re: Expression of Interest – Rural Broadband Experiments  
Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90**

Dear Chairman Wheeler, Commissioners, and Mr. Chambers,

This letter is to express the City of South Portland’s interest in participating in the Rural Broadband Experiments announced at the January 30<sup>th</sup> FCC Open Meeting. While we do not have a project to propose, we take this opportunity to document our City’s need for high-speed Internet service. We respectfully ask the Federal Communications Commission to consider our area’s need when making decisions regarding the Rural Broadband Trials and any future initiatives related to the Connect America Fund.

**Background**

**South Portland** is a city in Cumberland County, Maine and is the fourth-largest city in the state. Founded in 1895, as of the 2010 census, the city population was 25,002. Known for its working waterfront, South Portland is situated on Portland Harbor and overlooks the skyline of Portland and the islands of Casco Bay. Due to South Portland’s close proximity to air, marine, rail, and highway transportation options, the city has become a center for retail and industry in the region. The City of South Portland would like to provide our residents with high-capacity broadband connectivity; currently 3 Mb. broadband is available.

**Geographic Territory**

The project will target the following census tracts:

230050030003004  
230050030003025  
230050030004053  
230050030002018  
230050030004078  
230050031004013  
230050030004103  
230050031004025  
230050030002021  
230050030004007  
230050030004110

230050030003013  
230050035003003  
230050030004005  
230050030004089  
230050030004003  
230050030003006  
230050033001009  
230050030001028  
230050030004104  
230050030004096  
230050030004113  
230050030002017  
230050030001014  
230050030004009  
230050030002005  
230050030003025  
230050030001028  
230050033001009

**Proposed technology**

The City of South Portland work with local Internet Service Providers to bring fiber to the home for our residents.

**Existing Providers**

*Time Warner Cable, \$14.99, 2Mbps*

*GWI, \$31.95, 7Mbps*

*FairPoint, 2Mbps*

**Local or Tribal Government Participation**

*City of South Portland*

**List of Anchor Institutions**

South Portland School System, 5 Elementary Schools, 2 Middles Schools, 1, HS

South Portland Public Library

South Portland Branch Library

South Portland Community Center

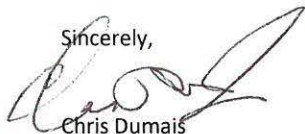
South Portland Redbank Gymnasium

South Portland Government Buildings

Local Business throughout the community

Thank you for considering our Expression of Interest in your decisions about the amount of funding that will be allocated in the Rural Broadband Experiments. We commend the FCC in this effort to connect rural communities and are ready to help you close the digital divide.

Sincerely,



Chris Dumais

Information Technology Director  
City of South Portland Maine